



# Community Connections

*The Children's Administration has identified the following list of community connections as potential partners for collaboration in the implementation of the Comprehensive Reform Plan.*

	Advocacy Groups	In-home Service Providers	Out of Home Service Providers	Caregivers	Court & Court Stakeholders	Education	Tribes
<b>SAFETY</b>							
Collaborate with Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC) to provide training to the Administrative Law Judges (ALJ's) regarding changes to the findings and impact on CAPTA hearings.					X		
Implement Family Team Decision Making Meetings within 72 hours of a child's placement in out-of-home care to develop more effective safety plans.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Implement policy to support early identification and involvement of fathers, relatives and Tribes in Family Team Decision Making meetings.	X		X	X			X
In collaboration with service providers, maximize existing contracted services to align with the new Child Protective Services (CPS) model and prevent the need for out-of-home services.	X	X	X		X		X
In collaboration with contracted providers develop and implement revisions to Alternative Response System (ARS), Family Preservation Services (FPS), and Intensive Family Preservation Services (IFPS) to better serve chronically neglecting families.		X	X				X
In collaboration with service providers, plan and conduct an annual summit for youth and service providers to improve services to youth-at-risk. <i>(Becca Summit)</i>	X	X	X		X	X	X
Implement statewide interagency domestic violence protocol and training <i>(with DASA, MH, ESA, and DV advocates and service providers)</i> .	X	X	X		X		X
Through a multi-disciplinary workgroup, conduct a statewide review of the Child Protection Team (CPT) system, including: membership, participation, information sharing and the review process.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
<b>PERMANENCY</b>							
Conduct regional forums for staff and community partners to review the OCAR research data and regional profiles on factors influencing re-entry and develop action strategies to address re-entry profiles.	X	X	X		X		X
In cooperation with service providers develop strategies to maximize the utilization of Family Preservation Services (FPS) when children are reunified and update current FPS contracts to include performance outcomes.	X	X	X			X	X
Require multi-disciplinary case staffings for children who have been in four or more placements to build an intensive case plan and improve stability.	X		X	X	X	X	X
Implement Family-Team Decision Making placement disruption prevention meetings.	X		X	X	X	X	X

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In consultation with Tribal partners, require Local Indian Child Welfare Act Committee (LICWAC) or permanency and/or prognostic staffings to be completed within 45-90 days of placement.			X	X			X
Implement case conferences prior to dispositional hearing, as required by 2004 legislation.		X	X	X	X		X
In collaboration with families and community partners, conduct staffings for all children in care for two years who do not have an identified permanent placement.			X	X	X	X	X
Increase child specific recruitment by increasing contracts with the qualified agencies, including Northwest Adoption Exchange (NWAE) and Washington Adoption Resource Exchange (WARE).	X		X	X			X
Maximize utilization of Foster Care Assessment Program (FCAP) resources by collaborating with Harborview to review and revise FCAP contracts to provide for assessments to be conducted early in the child's placement.			X	X			X
Collaborate with the Court Improvement Plan Grant Steering Committee to implement recommendations from the Dependency and Termination Equal Justice Committee (DTEJC).					X		X
In collaboration with AOC, AAG, and Office of Public Defense, update the model court order to indicate a finding including compelling reasons not to file TPR.					X		X
Collaborate with the courts to review and revise policy to define "notice", "right to be heard" and "input".				X	X		
Provide training to resource families (foster parents, kinship and guardianship caregivers) regarding participation in hearings ( <i>written and in-court</i> ).				X	X		X
In collaboration with community partners, develop, seek and implement guardianship legislation to change current statute of "dependency guardianships" to dismiss dependency upon establishment of guardianship and implement guardianship support program.	X			X	X		X
Review current third party custody orders and build on statutory language to develop more options for relatives obtaining long-term custody.				X	X		X
Collaborate with the AOC, community partners and county courts regarding the development of Family Drug Courts and seek funding options to support two additional courts over the next two years.	X				X		
In collaboration with community partners, develop and implement regional resource centers for post-adoption families and kinship families.	X	X		X			X
In collaboration with partners, develop policy to enable youth to stay in care and receive service until they are 21 if they are in an educational or vocational program (unless they wish to opt out earlier).	X		X	X		X	X
In collaboration with service providers, maximize existing contracted services to align the new CWS model.	X	X	X	X	X		X
In consultation with the community and service providers establish a uniform accepted definition of culturally responsive services.	X	X	X	X			X

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In collaboration with contracted service providers, implement a self-assessment process, to determine their level of cultural responsiveness.	X	X	X				X
Distribution of regional diversity profiles to staff and community partners on an annual basis by regional diversity managers.	X	X	X		X	X	X
Submission and implementation of the IV-E Demonstration Waiver, upon approval, to deliver enhanced, culturally competent, and individually tailored kinship supports that will engage paternal, maternal and fictive kin in the planning for and placement of their children.		X	X	X			
<b>ENGAGEMENT</b>							
In collaboration with Tribes, develop and implement a policy requiring notice to the Tribe within one working day of identification of a child's Tribal and/or Band affiliation for children in out-of-home placement to increase Tribal involvement in case planning.					X		X
Review current models for family meetings ( <i>Family Group Conferences, Family Team Meetings, and Family Decision Making</i> ) by developing and implementing protocols for what models are appropriate to be used during various decision making stages throughout the life of a case and providing training to staff, community partners and service providers to support the models for family meetings.	X	X	X	X	X		X
Review contracts/licenses with Child Placing Agencies and make necessary changes to support 30-day visits.			X	X			X
Develop and provide training for staff, foster parents, and community partners and service providers on engaging families, relatives and fathers.	X	X	X	X	X		X
Collaborate with community partners to plan and develop a statewide Fatherhood Summit.	X	X	X		X		X
<b>CHILD AND FAMILY WELL-BEING</b>							
Work with the Washington Education Foundation to obtain funding and implement the Foster Care to College Partnership plan, which includes establishing six regional educational outreach positions, who will serve as liaisons to assist children (16-18 year olds) in out-of-home care in meeting higher education goals.	X		X	X	X	X	X
Develop and implement tutor/mentoring plan to improve educational outcomes by identifying tutor/mentoring needs, reviewing and revising existing contracts (e.g. ILS, FRS) and establishing regional volunteer coordinators to recruit volunteer tutors and mentors.	X	X	X	X		X	X
Increase overall knowledge of educational resources and clarity of roles for youth, parents, relative caregivers, foster parents, school staff, social workers and courts through the development and implementation of a protocol for effective information sharing and service planning.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X

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Continue implementation plan for 2003 legislation to increase educational stability (HB 1058), including the development of interagency working agreements on regional Educational Achievement Summits, regional and statewide information and referral liaisons, revising ILS contracts to include teaching youth self-advocacy skills and revise foster parent DCFS training to include greater emphasis on education law and advocacy.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Increase referrals to preschool education and development programs.		X	X	X		X	X
Develop and implement the integration of health information, policy development and service delivery through the integration of Pre-Passport and Passport Programs.	X		X	X		X	X
Expand Pre-Passport to serve children in their own homes for whom CA has legal authority.		X				X	
In collaboration with community partners, utilizing Pre-Passport profiles, regions identify service gaps and create plans to fill gaps through maximizing local resources.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
In collaboration with other DSHS Administrations and community partners, continue workgroup efforts to review current system for children's mental health and develop plans and recommendations for improvements.	X	X	X	X		X	X
Implement newly existing agreements with Regional Support Networks (RSN) in each region.	X	X	X	X			
In collaboration with researchers and stakeholders, develop policies and protocols to build a framework for visitations between parents and children and siblings that is utilized uniformly across regions and include frequency of visitation (SB 6643).	X		X	X	X		X
Develop practice guidelines for when visitations can be unsupervised, outside of DCFS office and office hours, and who is able to supervise them.			X	X	X		
Provide training for staff and providers to support policy changes for visitations, quality of visitations and maintaining child cultural connections.			X	X	X		
Develop and implement a Parent Aid Model.		X	X	X			
Strengthen ISSP (service plan) and ISSP guide to include provisions for early identification of Tribal or Band affiliation and other cultural heritage.	X			X	X		X
<b>ADOLESCENTS</b>							
In collaboration with other DSHS Administration and community partners develop an integrated re-designed service model for adolescents.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Review and revise contracts for in-home services to include educational advocacy ( <i>Family Reconciliation Services, Family Preservation Services, and Intensive Family Preservation Services</i> ).	X	X		X		X	
Increase the percentage of eligible children receiving ILS services.	X		X	X		X	X
Establish Youth Advisory Group.	X		X	X			X
In collaboration with service providers, review and revise the ILS program to add a focus on reconciliation issues that exist with birth families, and transition to adulthood.			X	X		X	

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Develop and implement strategies to address permanency planning with adolescents and provide best practice guidelines for engaging youth in case planning and promoting active permanency planning with youth.	X		X	X	X		X
In collaboration with service providers, develop and implement a policy requiring a family meeting be convened for adolescents entering and exiting BRS placements.			X	X			X
<b>KINSHIP CARE</b>							
Utilize Family-Team Decision Making meetings to increase relative placements	X	X	X	X			X
In collaboration with community partners, develop and implement regional resource centers for post-adoption families and kinship families.	X		X	X			X
Develop and implement revised policy framework for kinship care to provide access to services for non-licensed kinship care providers and tools (e.g. ancestry chart, genogram) for Kinship care policy, including how it supports Tribal ICWA law requirements.	X		X	X			X
Explore working partnerships and opportunities to secure and increase legal assistance for parents and family members to complete parenting plans, paternity and third party custody agreements, etc. (e.g. Office of Public Defense, Law schools)	X			X	X		
<b>RESOURCE FAMILY RECRUITMENT AND RETENTION</b>							
Implement the "Breakthrough Series" principles statewide	X		X	X			
Require notification to resource families and provide support to increase participation and provide input in all meetings, staffings and hearings involving planning for the children in their care.	X			X	X		
Implement the Request for Proposal (RFP) for providing statewide foster parent support.	X		X	X			
Implement the statewide after hours foster parent support crisis line.	X		X	X			
Implement a conflict resolution process in each region.	X		X	X			
Implement the foster parent satisfaction surveys on a statewide basis ( <i>licensing completion, in service, and exit from service</i> )	X			X			
Develop and implement state and regional resource management plans, including minority and school based recruitment.	X			X		X	X
Develop protocols to support Tribal licensing processes and recognize Tribal licensing standards.				X			X
<b>CONSULTATION AND COLLABORATION</b>							
Review and follow existing consultation processes occurring between the Tribes and the state and establish mechanisms to implement the Centennial Accord, the Tribal-State Agreement and the 7.01 DSHS policy.							X

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Develop and implement a process for consultation to improve collaborative government to government relationships which results in an integrated partnership approach to solutions, including informing Tribes of all available funding sources ( <i>IV-B addendum</i> ), integrating the Tribal/State planning processes and collaborating with Tribal representatives to develop the process and the forums for this consultation and negotiations to occur.		X	X				X
Conduct an Annual Indian Child Welfare Summit.	X			X	X		X
Notify Tribes, Indian organizations, coalitions of Tribes and Indian organizations and the Indian Policy Advisory Committee (IPAC) that they have the right to consult and negotiate directly with Regional Administrations and CA HQ when issues cannot be resolved at the local office level.	X						X
In the course of the development of Child and Family Services Plan (CFSR), consultation with all of the Tribes and Indian organizations will occur at each programmatic stage and this consultation will be documented.							X
Collaborate with DASA to include chemical dependency staff in CA offices and increased slots for pregnant and parenting programs.		X	X		X		
Complete and implement the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between CA and DASA to include ongoing monitoring of contracts for UA providers.		X	X		X		
In collaboration with courts and UA providers, assess the feasibility for UA's to be completed at the courthouse.		X	X		X		
Collaboration between community and government partners ( <i>JRA, MH, CA, Children's Alliance, Courts and providers</i> ) to redesign services for adolescents in their homes.	X	X			X	X	
Continue development of the statewide interagency domestic violence protocol.	X	X	X		X		
Implement cross-training to support the implementation of the domestic violence protocol ( <i>with DASA, MH, ESA, and DV advocates and services providers on cross-training</i> ).	X	X	X				
Develop and distribute educational brochures and/or information packets in collaboration with the education sector that have basic statewide information including: mandatory reporting information and programs descriptions for CA and schools.	X			X	X	X	
In collaboration with community partners, assess and evaluate results from Families and Communities Together (FACT) over the course of the next three years	X	X	X	X			X
Collaborate with public and private child welfare providers to develop and implement contracted service models, based on research practices.	X	X	X				
Collaborate with CIP in the planning and implementation of specific projects and recommendations within the court system and participate with senior judicial officials, CIP staff, and others to develop dependency system improvements and incorporate the CFSR findings relating to the dependency courts in the CIP reassessment process.	X	X	X	X	X		
Collaborate with Court Improvement Planning Committee to develop a process for inquiry as to Tribe and/or Band affiliation at shelter care hearing.					X		X
Support partnership in advancing priority agenda for Catalyst for Kids.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X

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<b>ARRAY OF SERVICES</b>							
In collaboration with contract providers implement CA contract reform model action steps over a 3-year period.		X	X				X
Revise contracts to increase expectation regarding the delivery of culturally responsive services and provide mandated ongoing training for contracted providers.	X	X	X	X	X		X
In collaboration with community partners and DASA, develop and implement revised screening tools for chemical dependency.		X	X				
Review and revise chemical dependency training to address: cross-system understanding, partnerships, and utilizing cross-system resources.		X	X				X
In collaboration with stakeholders develop and implement the revised policy regarding prenatal substance abuse.	X	X	X				X
Complete and implement protocols for working with families with methamphetamine abuse issues.		X	X				
Develop a process for implementing three culturally competent services in two areas of the state.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Implement revised diversity training for all staff and providers.		X	X	X	X		X
Implement annual diversity conference for staff and partners.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Development of regional databases regarding accessible Tribal services.		X	X				X
<b>QUALITY ASSURANCE</b>							
Increase training on government to government principles, Tribal/State agreement and ICW provisions for foster parents and clerical staff at annual conferences.				X			X
In collaboration with foster parents develop and implement a policy requiring ongoing training for foster parents.			X	X		X	
Expand training opportunities for non-licensed caregivers (e.g. PRIDE training).				X			
Expand ICW training opportunities to all caregivers.				X			X
In collaboration with contracted providers, develop and implement a comprehensive training strategy for contracted providers, including required diversity and ICW training.		X	X	X			X
Provide access to ICWA training for CASA's and GAL's.					X		X
Develop and implement a policy requiring notice to the Tribe within one working day of identification of a child's Tribal and/or Band affiliation for children in out-of-home placement to increase Tribal involvement in case planning.					X		X